

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A wheeled luggage case having a luggage receptacle, the receptacle having two opposing major walls and having end walls forming a luggage compartment, the luggage receptacle having a front end and a rear end and having a length and width which both exceed its height, whereof a major wall of the receptacle is adapted to serve as a bottom wall that
5 closely faces the ground during use of the wheels whereby the case may be wheeled along on the bottom wall like a trolley, wherein said luggage case further comprises:-

- (i) a plurality of unidirectional support wheels located at the rear end of the bottom wall;
- (ii) a retractable steering wheel assembly, located on the bottom wall, distanced from the support wheels, said steering wheel assembly having at least one multidirectional
10 wheel and being moveable between an active position at which the wheel assembly extends below the bottom wall of the luggage receptacle or an inactive position at which the wheel assembly is substantially within the profile of the luggage receptacle; and

- (iii) a handle means that can be moved between an active position at which it extends
15 outwards from the luggage receptacle and can be engaged by a user and an inactive position at which the handle is contained substantially within the luggage, the handle being located at one end of the luggage receptacle for steering, pushing, pulling and lifting purposes; wherein the handle is located at the same end of the luggage receptacle as the support wheels when the handle is in the active position, such that,

20 ~~wherein~~ when the steering wheel assembly is in the active position, in use, the steering wheel assembly and support wheels are in contact with the ground and wherein when the luggage receptacle ~~may is being~~ pushed along by the handle, ~~with the steering wheel assembly leading,~~

25 wherein the steering wheel assembly and support wheels ~~being~~ are configured such that with the steering wheel assembly in its active position, the steering wheel assembly extends further from the bottom wall than the support wheels such that the bottom wall is at an incline with respect to the ground, the bottom wall being inclined upwardly away from the support wheels, such that a greater portion of the forces acting on the luggage receptacle will act through the support wheels than through the steering wheel assembly,

30 wherein the support wheels are non-retractable wheels that are only activated when the steering wheel assembly is in the active position.

2. (original) A wheeled luggage case according to Claim 1 comprising two support wheels and a retractable steering wheel assembly configured relative to each other in a tricycle wheel configuration.

3. (currently amended) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 1, wherein when the steering wheels are retracted, the support wheels are inactivated by a stopper, the stopper protruding from the bottom wall such that when the steering wheel is in the ~~active~~ inactive position the luggage case rests on the stopper.

4. (original) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the retractable wheel assembly is pivotally mounted to deploy or retract in a pivoting motion.

5 5. (original) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the luggage receptacle incorporates exterior recesses in both an end wall and the bottom wall adapted to accommodate the steering wheel assembly in the inactive and active positions respectively, the steering wheel assembly moving pivotally from the end wall recess to the bottom wall recess to be in its active position.

6. (original) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the wheel of the steering wheel assembly is pivotally mounted in the assembly such that it can rotate about its own axis and about an axis substantially perpendicular to it.

7. (original) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the steering wheel assembly as deployed is supported by a support surface on the bottom wall of the case.

8. (original) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the support surface is recessed into the base wall of the case.

9. (original) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the support surface for the wheel assembly in the base wall is located at an acute angle to the base wall of the case with respect to a line between the front of the case and the support wheels.

10. (canceled)

11. (original) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the case in the active wheeling arrangement can act as a trolley cart to carry other luggage

12. (currently Amended) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 1, wherein when the wheeling system is in an inactive arrangement, the base of the case is level to the ground by a ~~'stopper'~~ stopper at one end and the support wheels at the other.

13. (withdrawn) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 1, wherein a brake system is incorporated for safety and convenience purposes.

14. (previously presented) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the steering wheel assembly is pivotally mounted to the case, about a pivot, in a configuration whereby the weight of the luggage case is not borne via the pivot of the pivotal mounting of the steering wheel assembly to the luggage case.

15. (withdrawn) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 14, wherein the steering wheel assembly has an L-shaped frame or bracket by means of which the assembly is pivotally mounted to the case and whereby an arm of the L-shaped frame or bracket serves to transmit the majority or all of the weight forces that are borne by the steering wheel assembly between the
5 luggage case and the steering wheel and bypassing the pivot of the pivotal mounting of the L-shaped frame or bracket to the case.

16. (original) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the posterior surface of the case is recessed to provide additional striding space.

17. (previously presented) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the case is adapted to be wheeled along on said bottom wall like a trolley.

18-19. (canceled)

20. (previously presented) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the bottom wall is inclined upwardly away from the support wheels such that the luggage receptacle's ~~centre of gravity~~ weight is displaced away from the steering wheel assembly.

21. (withdrawn) A wheeled luggage case as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the luggage receptacle incorporates an exterior recess in the bottom wall adapted to accommodate the steering wheel assembly in the inactive position.

22-23. (canceled)

24. (new) A wheel luggage case as claimed in claim 1, wherein the wheel of the steering wheel assembly is connected to a bracket, the bracket being connected to a turning element which can pivot about a substantially vertical axis in use in order to self adjust to turns in the path of the luggage case, the luggage receptacle having a recess to receive the steering wheel assembly when
5 the steering wheel assembly is in the inactive position, wherein when the steering wheel assembly is in the inactive position the turning element is perpendicular to the direction of forward linear motion of the luggage case in use.

25. (new): A wheeled luggage case having a luggage receptacle, the receptacle having two opposing major walls and having end walls forming a luggage compartment, the luggage receptacle having a front end and a rear end and having a length and width which both exceed its height, whereof a major wall of the receptacle is adapted to serve as a bottom wall that closely faces
5 the ground during use of the wheels whereby the case may be wheeled along on the bottom wall like a trolley, wherein said luggage case further comprises:-

- (i) a plurality of unidirectional support wheels located at the rear end of the bottom wall;
- (ii) a single retractable steering wheel assembly, located on the bottom wall, distanced from the support wheels, said steering wheel assembly having at least one
10 multidirectional wheel and being moveable between an active position at which the wheel assembly extends below the bottom wall of the luggage receptacle or an inactive position at which the wheel assembly is substantially within the profile of the luggage receptacle; and
- (iii) a handle means that can be moved between an active position at which it extends
15 outwards from the luggage receptacle and can be engaged by a user and an inactive position at which the handle is contained substantially within the luggage, the handle

being located at one end of the luggage receptacle for steering, pushing, pulling and lifting purposes wherein the handle is located at the same end of the luggage receptacle as the support wheels when the handle is in the active position, such that,

20 when the steering wheel assembly is in the active position, in use, the steering wheel assembly and support wheels are in contact with the ground and wherein when the luggage receptacle is being pushed along by the handle the steering wheel assembly leads,

wherein the steering wheel assembly and support wheels are configured such that with the steering wheel assembly in its active position, the steering wheel assembly extends further from the
25 bottom wall than the support wheels such that the bottom wall is at an incline with respect to the ground, the bottom wall being inclined upwardly away from the support wheels, such that a greater portion of the forces acting on the luggage receptacle will act through the support wheels than through the steering wheel assembly,

wherein the support wheels are non-retractable wheels that are only activated when the
30 steering wheel assembly is in the active position.

26. (new) A wheeled luggage case having a luggage receptacle, the receptacle having two opposing major walls and having end walls forming a luggage compartment, the luggage receptacle having a front end and a rear end and having a length and width which both exceed its height, whereof a major wall of the receptacle is adapted to serve as a bottom wall that closely faces
5 the ground during use of the wheels whereby the case may be wheeled along on the bottom wall like a trolley, wherein said luggage case further comprises:-

- (i) a plurality of unidirectional support wheels located at the rear end of the bottom wall;
- (ii) a retractable steering wheel assembly, located on the bottom wall, distanced from the support wheels, said steering wheel assembly being connected to the bottom wall by a
10 holding bracket in use, the steering wheel assembly having at least one multidirectional wheel and being moveable between an active position at which the wheel assembly extends below the bottom wall of the luggage receptacle or an inactive

position at which the steering wheel assembly and holding bracket are within the profile of the luggage receptacle; and

- 15 (iii) a handle means that can be moved between an active position at which it extends outwards from the luggage receptacle and can be engaged by a user and an inactive position at which the handle is contained substantially within the luggage, the handle being located at one end of the luggage receptacle for steering, pushing, pulling and lifting purposes wherein the handle is located at the same end of the luggage receptacle
20 as the support wheels when the handle is in the active position, such that,

when the steering wheel assembly is in the active position, in use, the steering wheel assembly and support wheels are in contact with the ground and wherein when the luggage receptacle is being pushed along by the handle the steering wheel assembly leads,

- 25 wherein the steering wheel assembly and support wheels are configured such that with the steering wheel assembly in its active position, the steering wheel assembly extends further from the bottom wall than the support wheels such that the bottom wall is at an incline with respect to the ground, the bottom wall being inclined upwardly away from the support wheels, such that a greater portion of the forces acting on the luggage receptacle will act through the support wheels than through the steering wheel assembly,

- 30 wherein the support wheels are non-retractable wheels that are only activated when the steering wheel assembly is in the active position.

27. (new): A wheeled luggage case as claimed in claim 26, wherein the luggage receptacle incorporates an exterior recess to accommodate the steering wheel assembly in the inactive positions respectively, wherein the steering wheel assembly is housed wholly within a recess when the steering wheel assembly is in the inactive position and the recess provides lateral
5 support to the holding bracket when the steering wheel assembly is in the active position.